

Letter to the Editor

Anophthalmia–Waardenburg Syndrome or Ophthalmalmo-Acromelic Syndrome: What Is in a Name?

To the Editor:

In a recent article, Suyugül et al. [1996] described two Turkish families with anophthalmia and distal limb abnormalities. This is a recognised but rare autosomal recessive condition. The authors described these cases under the title of “Anophthalmia-Waardenburg syndrome,” but in the text they commented that an alternative name was “ophthalmalmo-acromelic syndrome.” In 1994, Al-Gazali et al. published a report and suggested that ophthalmalmo-acromelic syndrome may be a better description since patients can have microphthalmia rather than anophthalmia. In 1995, I published another case under the title of ophthalmalmo-acromelic syndrome. It is difficult to be prescriptive about the name for a rare syndrome, but independent

use of alternative names will undoubtedly cause confusion. Perhaps both names should appear in either the title or key words of future publications.

REFERENCES

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O.W.J. Quarrell*
Centre for Human Genetics
Sheffield, UK

*Correspondence to: O.W.J. Quarrell, Centre for Human Genetics, 117 Manchester Rd., Sheffield S10 5DN, UK.

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